

First New England-Wide Eco-Hospitality Expo Planned

The NH Department of Environmental Services and the New Hampshire Lodging and Restaurant Association (NHLRA) will host the first New England wide Eco-Hospitality Expo in Nashua on April 14, 2009. The expo will focus on advancing green initiatives and sustainability practices, raising environmental consciousness and promoting eco-tourism throughout the hospitality industry in New England.

The DES Pollution Prevention Program has been working with the New Hampshire Sustainable Lodging and Restaurant Program, which is the subsection of the NHLRA that encourages lodging and restaurant facilities throughout the state to continually evaluate operations for a more environmentally sustainable mode of operation. The program creates an open line of conversation between the state agency and hospitality facilities in implementing green practices.

For more information on the NHSLRP or the Eco-Hospitality Expo, please visit www.NEecohospitalityexpo.com or call (603)228-9585.

Why Should I Carpool with Decreased Gas Prices?

Last summer when the average cost of gasoline peaked at just over \$4 a gallon, many drivers scrambled to set up a carpool schedule with co-workers or family members. But now, with the cost of oil bottoming out around \$40 a barrel, the average cost of gasoline has dropped to \$1.80 a gallon. This has led to more cars and drivers on the road, which in turn increases air pollution, road congestion, damages, and the need for vehicle maintenance. For example, every gallon of gas burned produces over 20 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions, a greenhouse gas that is

largely responsible for the increased rate of global climate change.

As for increased vehicle maintenance and operating costs, there are tools available to calculate your commuting costs. Below is a sample calculation from the New Hampshire Rideshare Program showing the average commuter's cost of driving to and from work every day.

New Hampshire Rideshare Program Calculator

What is your daily round trip commute distance from home to work (in miles)?	40
How many days per month do you normally work?	20
How many miles per gallon does your automobile average?	25
How much per gallon do you normally pay for gasoline?	\$1.95
What is your cost per mile for repairs, registration, maintenance and taxes?*	\$0.07
What is your cost per mile for financing, insurance and depreciation?*	\$0.365
Estimated Monthly Cost of Commuting:	\$ 410.40
Estimated Yearly Cost of Commuting:	\$4,924.80

** Cost per mile estimates based on the 2001 Federal Highway Administration's Cost of Owning and Operating a Vehicle.*

Increased motor vehicle activity can also impact human health. According to the DES Air Resources Division, almost 40 percent of all human health risk from toxic air pollutants comes from on-road and non-road mobile sources. On-road sources include cars, trucks and buses while non-road sources include construction equipment, recreational vehicles, boats, trains and air craft. By focusing on one of those items, reducing cars on the road, each and every driver can reduce human health risks and increase money in their pockets.

So please, before getting behind the wheel, consider taking that trip with another person to reduce your transportation footprint. If you would like to find someone to carpool with, please check the New

Hampshire Rideshare Program. This is a free commuter matching service provided by the NH Department of Transportation. There are many options for commuters to be able to carpool throughout the state. Please visit <http://www.nh.gov/dot/nhrideshare/index.htm> or call (603) 271-4043 for more information about this service.

**TO DATE, COMPANIES
HAVE REPORTED
COMBINED COST
SAVINGS OF
OVER \$3 MILLION
WITH P2 INTERNS!**

Pollution Prevention Interns

Since 1993, the NHPPP has partnered with UNH and US EPA to provide a highly successful pollution prevention summer interns program for New Hampshire businesses and municipalities. The internship allows companies and organizations to become more efficient, reduce waste and pollution and realize significant monetary savings. The benefits for both parties are great: the student acquires real world experience, and the company has the opportunity to save money while creating a safer and more environmentally sound work space.

For more program information or about how to hire a P2 intern, please contact Dr. Ihab Farag, UNH at (603) 862-2313 or ihab.farag@unh.edu by **April 1, 2009**. For more information on the P2 Internship Program, visit the DES home page and search for Internships: UNH/NHPPP under the A-Z list.

NHPPP Wastelines

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Have a wild time at Discover WILD NH Day, April 18

Celebrate Earth Day by bringing the family to Discover WILD New Hampshire Day, set for Saturday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of the Fish and Game Department headquarters on Hazen Drive in Concord. Admission is free! This event is fun for all ages. Try your hand at archery, learn to cast, build a duck box, or tie a fly. See retriever dogs in action, big fish and trained falcons, plus hybrid vehicles and more energy-saving ideas. There will also be hands-on wildlife arts and crafts for the kids and over 35 exhibits from environmental, conservation and outdoor organizations from around New Hampshire. Back by popular demand are the exhibits "The Ways of the Woods Traveling Museum" and "The Battling Bull Moose of Fowlertown." Discover WILD New Hampshire Day is co-sponsored by the departments of Environmental Services, and Fish and Game with support from the Wildlife Heritage Foundation of New Hampshire. Call (603) 271-3211, or visit www.WildNH.com.



**DID YOU KNOW ...?
May 11-15 Is
Green Commute
Week**